[House of Representatives No. 288.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, December 24, 1864.—Read first and second times, and referred to Committee on Military Affairs. January 5, 1865.—Made special order after existing special order, and ordered to be printed.

[By Mr. Wickham.]

A BILL

To be entitled An Act authorizing the promotion of officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, for distinguished valor and skill or for peculiar competency and general merit.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the President is hereby authorized, upon the recommendation of the General officer commanding a department or seperate army in the field, to fill any vacancy in the commissioned officers of a regiment, battalion or company, by the promotion to the same by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, of any officer, non-commissioned officer or private, who may have distinguished himself by exhibiting peculiar valor or skill on the battle field, or who is possessed of peculiar competency, efficiency and general merit: but the persons so recommended for promotion, shall belong to the regiment or battalion in which the vacancy shall exist.

Sec. 2. Such persons shall, as soon as the recommendation is forwarded by such Generl officer, be assigned to duty in the office to which he is recommended to be promoted.

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